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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY. DOCKET NO. 017309/0172

In re Patent Application of
RETTEMMAIRER, et al.

Serial No.: Unassigned Group Art Unit: Unassigned
Filed: September 13, 1999 Examiner: Unassigned
For: LAUNDRY DETERGENT COMPACT WHICH DISINTEGRATES IN
LIQUID ,

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.56

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.97 and 1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a prima facie prior art reference against the claims of the present application.

Docket No.: 017309/0172
Applicants: RETTENMAIRER, et al.

CONCISE EXPLANATION OF
RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

The relevance of documents A1-A3, A9 and A10 is cited in the present specification.

Documents A4, A6 and A11 came to Applicants' attention during the International Search of the corresponding International application. A copy of the International Search Report is attached setting forth the portion of each document considered relevant by the examiner.

Document A7 discloses a laundering additive in tablet form containing a granulated activator powder and polymeric disintegrators.

English translations of the foreign documents are not readily available; however, an abstract has been provided for document A7. Moreover, the absence of such translations does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider the submitted documents (37 C.F.R. §1.98 and MPEP §609).

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b), within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in §1.491.

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Applicants respectfully request that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and formally be made of record in the present application and that an initialled copy of Form PTO-1449 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

Respectfully submitted,

September 13, 1999

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